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THE NATURE CONSERVANCY NEWS

SPRING 1973

SPECIAL ISSUE:
YEAR IN REVIEW 1972

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An individual becomes a Life Member of The Nature Conservancy upon contribution of $300 for membership dues. Patrons contributing $1,000 and Sponsors contributing $500 are also granted Life Membership as special distinction among Annual Members. The contribution is used in the following ways: (1) $300 is added to the Guarantee and Income Fund for the Conservancy's endowment; and (2) the amount of a contribution above $300 is placed in the General Fund to support the Conservancy's national operations.

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The Nature Conservancy

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY NEWS

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SPECIAL ISSUE: YEAR IN REVIEW 1972

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LAND CONSERVATION THROUGH PRIVATE ACTION

The Nature Conservancy is the only national conservation organization, receiving its support from the public, whose resources are devoted to the preservation of ecologically and environmentally significant land.

Some 374,576 acres of forests, swamps, marshes, prairies, mountains, beaches, and islands, in 952 projects throughout the United States, have been saved from destruction by the Conservancy since the acquisition of its first preserve in 1954.

The Nature Conservancy works in three ways to protect threatened natural areas: by purchase of land with funds raised through public subscription, by acceptance of donations of land, and by advance acquisition of land for local, state, and federal governments.

A member-governed non-profit organization, The Nature Conservancy was incorporated in 1951 in the District of Columbia for scientific and educational purposes.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS

SPECIAL	REGULAR	
$1,000 Patron*	$100 Guarantor	$15 Family
$1,000 Corporate	$50 Supporting	$10 Subscribing
$500 Sponsor*	$25 Contributing	$5 Junior (under 18)

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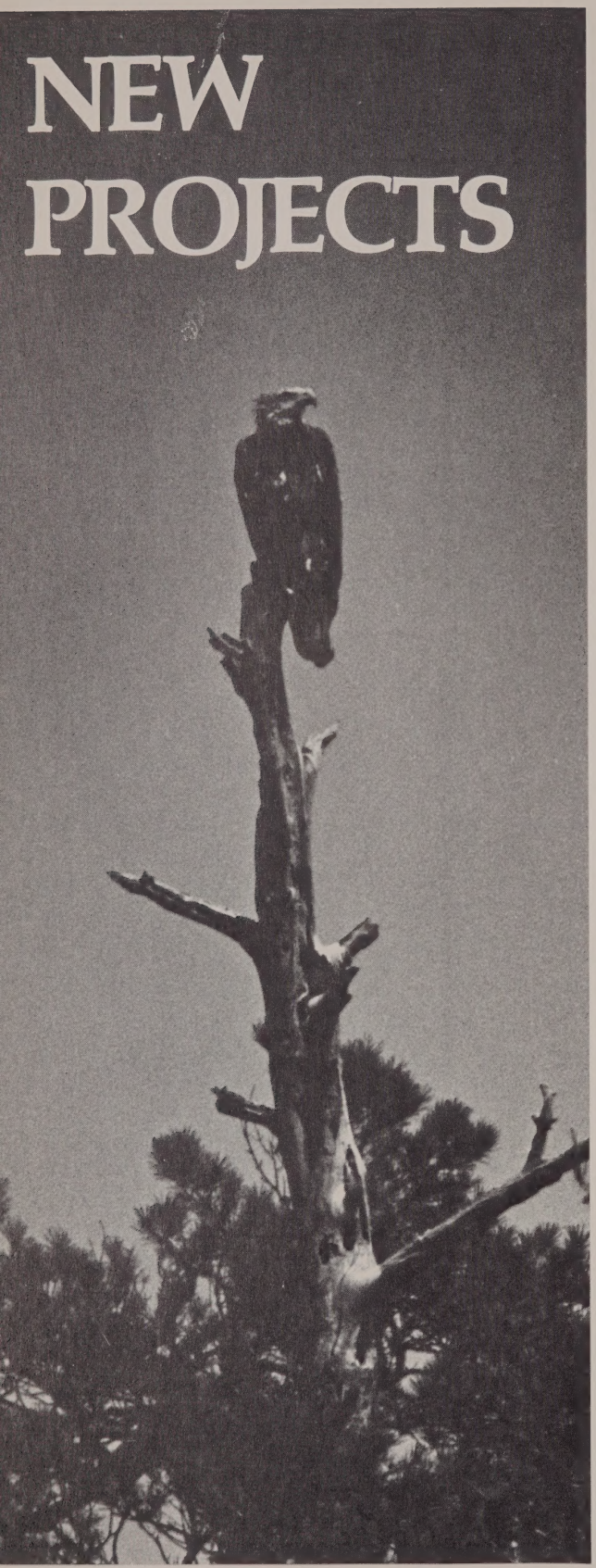
* (Includes Life Membership with initial contribution)
Contributions to The Nature Conservancy are tax-deductible.

NEW PROJECTS



Connecticut

HAYES PROPERTY (Fairfield County). The 26-acre oak-beech-maple woodland features a small pond, rock outcroppings, glacial erratics, and several small swamps. Deer and various birds, including the pileated woodpecker, frequent the area. The preserve will be conveyed to the Town of Ridgefield for management by the Ridgefield Conservation Commission.

Illinois

GENSBURG-MARKHAM PRAIRIE—Additions—(Cook County). Fourteen tracts totaling approximately 23 acres were purchased for addition to the 60-acre Gensburg-Markham Prairie, located on the glacial lake plain just south of Chicago. The once-subdivided area contains a unique combination of black and sandy soil which supports two separate and distinct types of prairie vegetation. A wide variety of plants and animals, including the western smooth green snake and bobwhite quail, is found on the area. Fund raising is underway by the Illinois Chapter, and the tract is scheduled for ultimate transfer to and management by Northeastern Illinois University.

ROCKY BRANCH PRESERVE—Curran Addition—(Clark County). Located at the junction of Rocky Branch and Big Creek, the 9-acre tract contains wooded sandstone promontories and several prairie openings. A variety of plants and animals rare to Illinois can be found here, including the walking fern, long-tailed and two-lined salamanders, and the redbelly dace. The tract will be managed by the Illinois Chapter until a suitable local management entity can be found.

Kansas

DINGUS NATURAL AREA (Linn County). 160 acres of rolling woodland fronting Little Sugar Creek are a gift of Wilson J. and Eunice B. Dingus. Upland areas support stands of post oak, bitternut hickory, American elm, green ash, and chinquapin oak; the rich north-facing slopes contain red oak, redbud, ironwood, shellbark hickory, black walnut, and basswood.

Maine

BUTLER PRESERVE (York County). 6 wooded acres are located directly across the Kennebunk River from another Conservancy preserve, the Lewis K. Marshall Memorial Forest. A ⅛ interest in the valuable river frontage was donated by Miss Dorothy J. and Mr. G. Robert Butler.

STEWART'S EASEMENT—MINK ISLAND—(Washington County). A conservation easement

on this ¼-acre island was donated by Mr. Robert K. Stewart. The island, located two miles south of the Conservancy's Flint Island in Naraguagus Bay, contains a dense stand of conifers surrounded by rocky shores.

Michigan

HOLLOWAY RESERVOIR—Becker Tract—(Lapeer County). 78 acres were purchased for inclusion in the proposed Holloway Reservoir Regional Park. The forested tract contains a blend of northern and southern tree species, as well as numerous herbaceous plants and shrubs. An exceptional number of plant species is present due to the area's various soil types. The tract is scheduled for transfer to the Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission.

Minnesota

CHIPPEWA PRAIRIE—DeGroot Addition—(Chippewa County). 40 acres contain mid-grass prairie located on a rocky plateau bordering Lac Qui Parle Lake. Typical vegetation includes big and little bluestem, Missouri goldenrod, wild rose, dropseed, and ground plum vetch. Chippewa Prairie, which is a unit in the Ordway Prairie system, now totals 654 acres.

ROCKVILLE TAMARACK BOG (Stearns County). 32 acres on the north bank of the Sauk River contain a heavily wooded tamarack bog on a gentle south-facing slope. There are occasional springs along the length of the slope, accounting for the unusual location of tamarack on a hillside. Flora includes black ash, dogwood, juniper, marsh marigold, pitcher plant, cranberry, horsetail, and sphagnum moss. The Minnesota Chapter is fundraising for the project.

New York

ACCABONAC HARBOR—Duncan Woods Addition—(Suffolk County). This one-acre parcel is a donation of Mr. Samuel Duncan. The forested hillside supports stands of white, red and black oak with scattered hickory and black locust.

DUNHAM BAY WETLAND—Howland-Friedman Parcel—(Warren County). The 66-acre marshland, on the extreme southern end of Lake George, serves as a breeding ground for numerous species of fish; it is also a major food-producing area for the Bay. Snapping turtles, belted kingfishers, American bitterns, blue and green herons, red-winged blackbirds, and the rare bog turtle inhabit the swamp. Flora includes wild celery, wild rice, stiff duck potato, yellow pond lily, white water lily, and pondweed. The tract is to be transferred to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Ohio

DICKERSON TRACT (Washington County). 67½ acres of mixed woodland and reverting fields lie adjacent to the proposed Tefft Memorial Nature Sanctuary and provide valuable buffer for the preserve. The area features a scenic waterfall and hemlock-lined ravines.

Virginia

GREAT DISMAL SWAMP (Nansemond County and City of Chesapeake). A 40% interest in 49,097 acres of forested swamp was donated to the Conservancy by the Union Camp Corporation of Wayne, New Jersey. The remaining percentage will be donated over the next three years with the complete transfer taking place in 1976. The unique wetland, which is to be conveyed to the U.S. Department of the Interior, is the largest donation the Conservancy has ever received. See story beginning on page 6.

HOG ISLAND, Virginia Coast Reserve—Oceanside Addition—(Northampton County). A large tract of 1,135 acres, located in the southern portion of the island on the state's Atlantic coast, consists entirely of dunes and marshland. The Conservancy now owns almost all of Hog Island, a valuable nursery for marine life and a welcome haven for shorebirds and waterfowl. The tracts were purchased with funds provided by the Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust.

Wisconsin

NELSON PROPERTY—Addition—(Waukesha County). 40 acres, donated by Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Nelson, adjoin the existing 26-acre Nelson Property. The tract contains an excellent oak woods with adjacent lowland woods, marshes, and open fields. The entire 66-acre preserve is to be transferred to the University of Wisconsin for use as an educational and research facility.

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN ARBORETUM—Kipen Tract—(Dane County). The ¾-acre inholding in the University of Wisconsin Arboretum had been threatened by development, and will provide valuable buffer to the adjacent wetlands. The area has been conveyed to Friends of the Arboretum.

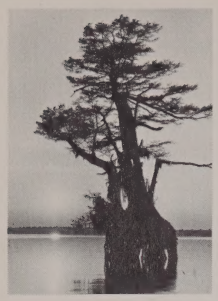
THE GREAT DISMAL SWAMP

The preservation of Virginia's Great Dismal Swamp has been an objective of environmentalists for a number of decades. In mid-January, 1973, The Nature Conservancy and Union Camp Corporation, owner of a major portion of the swamp, announced that the company was donating approximately 50,000 acres of swamp, valued at $12.6 million, to the Conservancy. In turn, the Conservancy would attach suitable restrictions to the transfer documents and convey the property to the Fish and Wildlife Service for creation of a national wildlife refuge.

Special praise is due Union Camp's Board Chairman, Alexander B. Calder, Jr., and President, Samuel M. Kinney, Jr., who were reported by Fortune and Business Week to have seen conservation as the highest end use for the company's holdings in the Great Dismal Swamp. Moreover, the nation's tax laws, which encourage the allocation of private resources for the public good, made the financial impact of the gift beneficial to Union Camp and its stockholders.

The Great Dismal Swamp is a unique swamp forest of great complexity. The forest is a crazy-quilt of evergreen shrub bogs, loblolly pine barrens, cypress swamps, brier thickets, and mixed swamp forests of red maple, pond pine, Atlantic white cedar, and other swamp species. Because of its geographic location, Dismal Swamp is an ecological crossroads of northern and southern species. Its climate is more temperate than more inland areas of the same latitude because of the moderating influence of the warm waters of the Gulf Stream a few miles to the east. In many respects the Great Dismal Swamp seems to be a wonderful accident of nature, combining in one contiguous area a mixture of separate ecosystems. This differentiates it from nearly all other swamps, which tend to be unified ecosystems in which the modification of one part of the system will necessarily alter the whole.

The Great Dismal Swamp effort has been called a "General Fund" project, for without the professional skills of the negotiators, staff attorneys, public relations and regional office staffs, as well as the many trips, phone calls and endless draft documents prepared at all hours, the swamp would never have been saved. The preservation of the Great Dismal Swamp is the clearest example of what the General Fund does: it makes it possible for the Conservancy to negotiate on a par with industry, developers, and entrepreneurs . . . with the frequent result that the natural lands are better preserved.



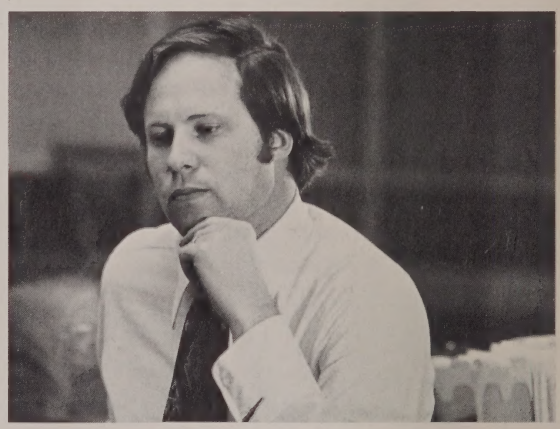
Although many members of the Conservancy's national and Eastern Regional Office staff worked on the Dismal Swamp project, the architect for the complex plan that evolved into the preservation of the swamp was Patrick F. Noonan, Director of Operations and a Conservancy Vice President. Pat Noonan, thirty, has been on the Conservancy staff for four years. He holds Master's degrees in both City and Regional Planning and Business Administration. He is a licensed real estate broker and professional appraiser, and was formerly in private practice as a real estate investment and land planning consultant. In the following interview, Mr. Noonan describes the long and intricate series of negotiations between The Nature Conservancy and Union Camp Corporation which led to the preservation of approximately 50,000 acres of the Great Dismal Swamp.

TNC News: How and when did the Conservancy's interest in the Great Dismal begin?

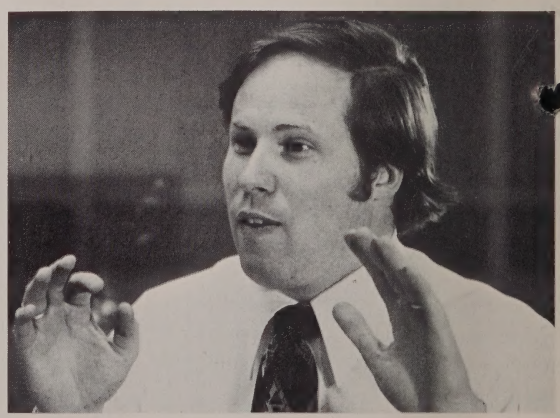
Noonan: Long before I came to the Conservancy, the Dismal had been identified as one of the largest and most significant swamps remaining in the eastern United States. Alvah Duke, the swamp's most fervent defender, had frequently supplied TNC with information. Federal and state agencies had examined the swamp's future. The city of Chesapeake, in which a portion of the swamp lies, had been interested. For years everybody said, "The government should buy the swamp" . . . but never had any funds been allocated at any level.

TNC News: After the dormant years, what prompted TNC to begin to aggressively pursue the swamp's protection?

Noonan: One of our hopes in conservation is to initiate action rather than react to problems, and what really brought the problem to a head was the pending construction of Interstate Route 64 along the northwest edge of the swamp. The new highway, with its potential for industrial development, would exercise an upward effect on land values. Secondly, technology had progressed to the point where entrepreneurs could go into the swamp with large machinery, clearcut, drain, lime and fertilize extensively, and plant crops with excellent yields. This, too, was driving the price up. The agricultural speculators could afford a larger



Patrick F. Noonan



initial land price and sell off the timber to cover conversion costs . . . and the land was "carrying itself" so that it was ready for more intensive development. We knew we had to move quickly; otherwise, key portions of the swamp might escalate in price beyond the reach of conservation.

TNC News: What were the first steps?

Noonan: First, we talked to scientists familiar with the area to see if the swamp was still worthy of preservation. There had been more than a little encroachment over the last two hundred or so years! There had been development around the edges, and the Army Corps of Engineers had for years been tampering with the water levels. Although the area was far from pristine, the wetland's essentially wild nature was intact. Its total size, over 250,000 acres, gave hope that natural systems were viable.

Next we talked to a group of Virginians led by Barbara Racine. They were ready to do anything they could to help preserve the swamp. Another group of North Carolina residents, headed by Dr. Joseph Gill, wanted to see the southernmost portions of the swamp preserved. Mrs. Racine's group and Dr. Gill's people went to work identifying ownership patterns. We discovered that the average size tract was 10,000 acres. We also discovered that the largest block of land was the 50,000-acre tract owned by Union Camp. We also learned that Union Camp's holdings contained Lake Drummond, 3,000 acres in the heart of the swamp.

The three elements which would be needed to move ahead were all there: positive scientific opinions, local community support, and an evolving acquisition strategy.

We again explored the possibility of government funding. Although efforts were being made in North Carolina and Virginia to obtain some special status for the swamp, nothing was "on the books."

TNC News: How did you approach Union Camp as the key landowner in the swamp?

Noonan: In retrospect, three things happened more or less at once. Initially, and most important, the Union Camp staff had just completed a study which, as I understand it, indicated that conservation of the Dismal was a possible alternative to other uses. Second, about the same time, I believe, Barbara Racine also contacted Union Camp; and third, we sent a feeler up to Union Camp with information about The Nature Conservancy and the Dismal. In the independent Union Camp study, TNC had been identified as one of the major non-profit land conservation groups in the country.

TNC News: How long ago was this initial contact made?

Noonan: That was in 1970, but realize that before the contact took place, both TNC and Union Camp had completed separate studies. In the first of over two dozen meetings, Union Camp traveled to the TNC offices. In subsequent meetings we went to their headquarters in New Jersey. We both went to the swamp and we held meetings in offices in Washington and New York. At the first meeting Union Camp expressed concern that whatever the ultimate utilization of the swamp, which they had owned for over fifty years, it should be in the best interest of their stockholders. My very rough guesses of the property's value on the open market made me think that a straight purchase—a dollar transaction—was not a viable alternative for conservation.

While the Union Camp people were here, we briefed them on the Conservancy and how we might work together. As the visit ended, we were on fairly good terms, but I didn't think we could find the kind—the amount—of money it would take, even if Union Camp were willing to sell the property (a fact we had not fully ascertained). On the other hand, Union Camp at this time certainly didn't let us know in any way that they were convinced they could justify a donation. The Union Camp people reiterated that, while the company had concluded that preservation might be the highest and best use for the Dismal Swamp holdings, they had to recognize the interests of their stockholders—especially since they were talking about the disposition of a corporate capital asset. We felt we had opened some doors, but the key question now was the value of the land. None of us knew for sure; no appraisals had been done.

TNC News: You had checked all the usual interested parties—the private sector, as well as government conservation organizations—and found support lacking. What did you do next?

Noonan: As with any other potential major acquisition, we began to think that perhaps a gift of the land would produce an "after tax effect" approaching sale of the land on the open market. We call that after tax effect "keep dollars." For instance, if you sell land which has a low cost basis (the price you paid for it) relative to its market value, by the time you pay a broker's commission, capital gains tax, and state tax, your "keep dollars" after these costs might be between 50% and 60% of the sale price.

At this point we worked up three alternatives: outright open market sale; bargain sale for half the fair market value; or a full donation. We circled the three bottom line figures reflecting "keep dollars" and identified them as the net after-

tax effect. Given our guess of Union Camp's cost basis and an estimated fair market value and tax bracket, it worked out that the figures were reasonably close. Of course, another important variable was the corporation's income each year, since the charitable contribution deduction for a corporation is limited in any one year to 5% of taxable income. Now, on top of what appeared to be a possible financial solution, we at TNC were pretty sure that in these environmental times any donation of the magnitude of the Dismal would attract a great deal of favorable public comment.

TNC News: In any situation of this sort, what questions must be answered?

Noonan: We have to pinpoint four variables: 1) the current cost basis (which equals original price plus any capital improvements less any depreciation of improvements or natural resources such as timber); 2) the tax bracket (federal and state); 3) taxable income per year; and 4) the value of the property.

TNC News: There are a number of different ways to establish value. In this case, which one did you choose?

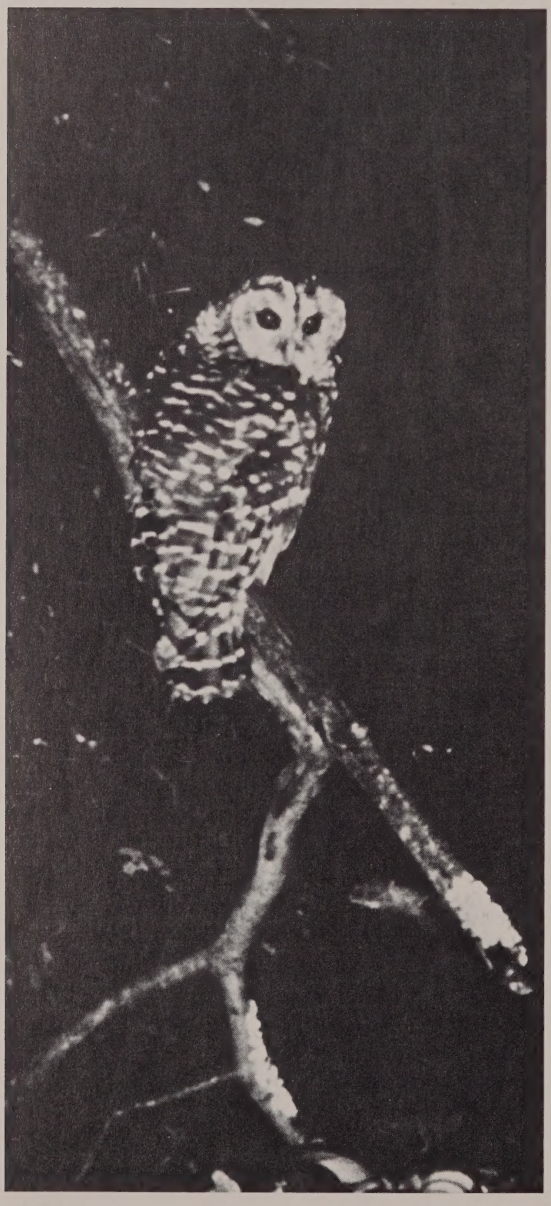
Noonan: In view of the size of the project and the importance of obtaining the most professional valuation that we could, we felt we should select two Members of the Appraisal Institute (MAI). MAI's have very high standards in education as well as experience. We realized that on something of this size we would have to get more than one appraisal. We knew that in the event a donation would take place the Internal Revenue Service would audit the gift and review the appraisal. We also knew that gathering appraisals would be expensive. In an effort to save a little on the costs, we had both appraisers work together on the long job of fact-gathering and write separate final analyses and make independent value conclusions. The two value conclusions would be substantiated by separate reports. This is, of course, a perfectly ethical approach in the appraisal profession. We wanted the best appraisers we could find to do the job and chose Bud Cannon of Michigan with a twenty-year background in appraisals, specializing in raw land. As the other, we chose John Huff from North Carolina, a specialist in timber valuation and agricultural conversion processes.

TNC News: Appraising land of this size, even cutting on costs, is expensive. How were you able to find the money and how long did it take?

Noonan: We knew that the appraisals, first-class appraisals that could stand up to any inspection, were keys to saving the swamp. Without them, we knew that nothing could be done. So we brought the appraisers to Washington and asked them for a preliminary estimate of the cost of appraising the swamp. The estimate was between $25,000 and $30,000. We told them to go ahead, that we were prepared to pay the whole cost from the General Fund. The appraisals took six to nine months to complete. The valuations were in the $12-14 million range, so we were convinced that TNC could acquire the land only as a gift or perhaps a bargain sale of some sort; but more important, we thought, the potential impact of the valuation on Union Camp's net income after taxes, made the donation by Union Camp a real possibility.

Union Camp asked us what we would do with the swamp if they decided to give it to TNC. Union

In the darkness of the swamp, a barred owl awaits his prey.



The Conservancy's President, Dr. Everett Woodman, speaks at the official ceremony marking Union Camp's donation of lands in the Dismal Swamp. Virginia Senator Harry F. Byrd, Shirley Temple Black, Special Assistant to the Chairman of the Council of Environmental Quality, and Union Camp Board Chairman Alexander Calder, Jr., look on.

Camp had examined TNC well enough to know that physical management of the area by the Conservancy was not possible. We were talking about an area of 76 square miles within twenty miles of an urban complex of a million people.

TNC News: If TNC could not physically protect the swamp, how were you able to find someone who could?

Noonan: Bob Jenkins, Science Advisor to the Conservancy, began to work with us in developing a management capability study. We reached the unanimous decision that of the various state, federal or private conservation agencies, the Fish and Wildlife Service through the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife would be best able to care for the swamp. We felt that foremost consideration of its management mandate would be directed toward protecting the character and integrity of the swamp. The Service had expressed interest in the swamp. Through our past experiences, for instance at Wassaw Island, Georgia, and moreover with the able direction of Nathaniel P. Reed, Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks in the Interior Department, we knew the Bureau evidenced an enlightened approach to management. We also thought that they would be able to accept the swamp with somewhat well-defined restrictions. Our involvement with National Wildlife Refuge lands has generally been very good, and we knew that in addition to their philosophy regarding refuge management, that the Bureau had the physical capabilities and knowledge to successfully safeguard the Dismal. We told Union Camp of our recommendation and logic. They agreed that the Fish and Wildlife Service would be good managers of the swamp.

TNC News: So far, you had estimated the value and located a probable final recipient of the land. What were the next steps?

Noonan: We had to determine how a possible donation could be made. Our staff met with the Union Camp staff. The alternatives were: should the entire donation be made at once or should it be broken into portions? In that event, should it be split into actual sections or into undivided interests, or given as an easement at first and in fee later? We at the Conservancy, in all conscience, knew that unless Union Camp was willing to donate the entire swamp in undivided interests over a number of years, the integrity of the preserve might be compromised. Fortunately, Union Camp's staff also felt that circumstances required that the donation be made in this manner so as to afford the company and its stockholders the greatest benefit. From TNC's point of view, the reasoning was simply this: the appraisals were

very interesting since they concluded that the highest and best use of the property was conservation, rather than development, because of the land's intrinsic natural qualities. There were, however, some additional value influences. Example: approximately three to five thousand acres located on the northerly portion of the property were influenced heavily by I-64 and a railroad, giving the area industrial potential. That was an additional value that had to be added to the appraisal and plugged in. The area around Lake Drummond had an additional value increment of recreational potential. Thus it was important to consider the Union Camp land in its entirety rather than in parts. Ultimately, we came to an understanding that it was to everyone's benefit to donate the holdings as undivided interests of the entire parcel.

TNC News: By late 1972, many of TNC's thoughts and requirements were known to Union Camp. What was their position?

Noonan: They accepted the idea and understood our needs. In fact, we knew that Union Camp's Board had given management the okay to go ahead if management decided it was in the best interests of the stockholders to do so. We had even commissioned, at our expense, a review appraisal from Bob Alsover, who had recently retired as the highly respected chief appraiser for the Justice Department. Alsover's review substantiated the earlier full-scale appraisals. By December we were well into the final negotiations. A number of major last-minute problems came up—I can't count all the drafts, deeds, and restrictions that went back and forth between here and Union Camp in Wayne, New Jersey—but through the efforts of a great many people at TNC, Union Camp and in the government, we were able to solve all of the difficulties.

TNC News: I am impressed with how the preservation effort was constructed, benefiting Union Camp and its stockholders while resulting in a $12.6 million gift to the people of the United States. But how can TNC be sure that in the years to come the Dismal will stay protected?

Noonan: We have made many specific restrictions a part of the gift deed from the Conservancy to the Interior. We must approve plans for and the construction of any facilities; we must specifically authorize the use of any herbicides, etc.; vehicles are precluded from all except existing roads which, I might point out, are not very good; no materials may be removed except "incident to management and enhancement of the integrity and natural character of the ecosystem of the above described property." That phrase closely parallels the intent of the gift as stated in the deed and is also tied into the administration of the area as a part of the National Wildlife Refuge System. No oil or gas may be removed unless the Secretary of the Interior determines such removal is in the "national interest." Even in this unlikely event, since there is absolutely no evidence that oil or gas exists under any part of the swamp, any damage to the swamp's ecosystem must be minimal and the ecosystem reasonably repaired. Further, a use plan is scheduled for preparation by the Bureau within eighteen months of the transfer. The intent of the transfer is, then, in effect, the real and most severe restriction, since the area reverts back to The Nature Conservancy if the intention of the transfer is violated. It's like a circle. The intent of the transfer fits in with the concept of the refuge system, which in turn relates directly to the nature of the restrictions, which returns once again to the intent of the gift. So, in essence, nothing may take place that is not in accordance with the intention of the gift which is "the preservation and enhancement of the integrity and the natural character of the ecosystems" of the swamp. Given all the possible threats to the swamp in the years ahead, we think that we have created the best practical system for protection of the area.

Early morning mist rises off Jericho Ditch.

TNC News: How will TNC police the conditions?
Noonan: Our role will be primarily that of a watchdog to insure the restrictions are followed and adhered to in every respect. We will be doing that through the tremendous interest of a number of citizens in the Tidewater area, including the critical eyes of Barbara Racine, Dr. Gill and the swamp's foremost protector, Alvah Duke. Also, scientists will be using the swamp, and if past experience on many of our preserves is any indication, we will hear of any problems. Of course, we expect that in the near future our own preserve management system will permit the examination of reverters on a regular basis.

TNC News: Pat, you've been with the Conservancy for a number of years, seen the organization grow, watched the projects increase. Are you confident that the future of the swamp is protected?

Noonan: As far as the Union Camp portion is concerned, yes, I feel good about it. The refuge must be used for environmental and ecological purposes consistent with the enhancement of the ecosystems of the swamp. If these concepts are not followed, the swamp reverts back automatically with title vested in the Conservancy without restrictions. TNC can file suit to prove the misuse or, and this is very important, if the restrictions are violated, anybody can file suit since the Great Dismal is a gift to the people of the United States.
TNC News: You said yes to the Union Camp portion. What about the other major owners?
Noonan: Our problem here is that there are still no funds available to purchase some of the remaining portions we have identified. Some are being attacked by loggers and ditchers. We have had contact with some of the resource-based national companies like Georgia-Pacific and Weyerhaeuser who own a portion of the swamp. We know that they have also been contacted by the Interior Department. But, we have not yet received any firm replies in regard to donations. And so far, none of the major philanthropies have given approval to financial support. I remain an optimist that we can save the additional swamp area, but time is not in our favor. We are prepared to move quickly and efficiently, but unless sources of private funding can be identified quickly, the prices will escalate rapidly due to the factors previously mentioned. Meanwhile, development intrusions may adversely affect the swamp's natural qualities. Moreover, if we wait until the federal or state governments take action, we may have waited too long for the sake of the swamp. Delay escalates land costs and heightens the chance of destruction of the natural features. Certainly an old adage is appropriate here and in all our conservation efforts: "To the swift belongs the race."

Great, Not Dismal

The Nature Conservancy, an extremely useful organization that has already rescued several hundred thousand acres of ecologically significant lands from destruction, scored its greatest success last week in saving the Great Dismal Swamp. Through its intervention and the generosity of the Union Camp Corporation, a forest-products concern, 50,000 acres of this unique wilderness, straddling the Virginia-North Carolina border, will be turned over to the Interior Department for preservation as a national wildlife refuge.

Forbidding as its name may be, the Great Dismal Swamp is one of the few natural gems remaining in the East. The northern limit of range for many wild creatures, it is a haven for bear, bobcat and river otter; for roughly 75 species of birds and for many rare plants. Unfortunately, the swamp is already sadly reduced in size as a consequence of years of draining by loggers and others; Lake Drummond in its center is down to half its original depth.

The Nature Conservancy's timely intervention is characteristic of an agency that manages to spot endangered parcels across the country and to save them either by buying them up for subsequent sale to Government or by arranging direct transfers. In this case, as it often does, the organization includes in its deed a reverter clause to insure that the Government will fully abide by the preservationist intent of the donor.

That intent is even more to the donor's credit than its contribution in financial terms, since part of that will be offset by the considerable tax deduction the company will receive. One of the Conservancy's skills is to demonstrate economic feasibility to industrial owners of such environmentally precious parcels, but in the end the companies must want to act in the public good. The Union Camp Company has set an example which other industrial units can follow to the enhancement of their own reputations as well as to the country's advantage.

—The New York Times
January 25, 1973

Washington at Lake Drummond, Dismal Swamp.

A Land of History and Legend . . .

Taken from accounts written by Gary A. Soucie

Just who discovered the Great Dismal Swamp, and when, is unknown. Perhaps it was discovered by the earliest settlers, for it is located about midway between the first two English colonies in the New World: Fort Raleigh (1585) on Roanoke Island, North Carolina, and Jamestown, Virginia (1607). However, the 17th Century colonists had plenty to keep them busy right at home—such events as the massacre of 1622, starvation, sickness, and Bacon's Rebellion—without wandering down to the wilderness south of the Nansemond River. Also, migration was generally to the west, into the fertile Piedmont, rather than into the sandy coastal region. So, except for hunting parties, it is unlikely that the earliest settlers along the James River and Albemarle Sound ventured into Dismal Swamp.

Before the coming of the white man, the Nansemond Indians lived and hunted in Dismal Swamp, but they were gone from the swamp by the end of the 18th Century. Early in the 1700's, the people who lived in the settlements southwest of Norfolk knew well at least the edges of the Dismal Swamp. Colonel William Byrd II, a member of the commission that surveyed the state line through the swamp in 1728, provided the first extensive description of the Dismal Swamp. He detested the place, and—lifting whole phrases from the 1670 writings of map maker Augustine Herrmann—described it as "a very large swamp or bogg . . . horrible desart . . . the foul Damps ascend without ceasing, corrupt the Air, and render it unfit for Respiration . . . Never was Rum, that cordial of Life, found more necessary than in this Dirty Place."

Byrd often is credited with giving the swamp its forbidding name, and certainly he thought of it as a thoroughly dismal place. But writer Ulrich Troubetzkoy has referred to a court certificate that indicates it was known as Dismal Swamp prior to the Byrd survey. It has been suggested that Dismal Swamp is a translation of its Indian name. We will never know for sure, because the last known speaker of the Nansemond language died in 1902.

In May, 1763, George Washington made the first of at least six visits to the Great Dismal. He was more favorably impressed by it than Byrd and described the swamp as a "glorious paradise" abundant with fowl and other wildlife. Washington was the first to note that Dismal Swamp is "neither plain nor hollow, but a hillside." However, like Byrd, Washington suggested draining the swamp and digging a north-south canal through it to connect the waters of Chesapeake Bay and Albemarle Sound. In that same year, joining with several other entrepreneurs, he formed two syndicates known as the Dismal Swamp Land Company and the Adventurers for Draining the Great Dismal Swamp.

After acquiring permission from the General Assembly of Virginia to enter onto and drain land

in the Dismal Swamp, Washington and his associates dug a five-mile-long canal from the western edge of the swamp to Lake Drummond in its center. This canal, on the property later to be owned by Union Camp, was known as Washington's Ditch and is probably the first "monument" bearing the name of the Father of Our Country. Historians disagree about the original purpose of the canal, but there is some evidence that the first venture tried was agriculture. But, successful farmer that he was, even George Washington couldn't make the peat soil produce cotton and rice. Once the agricultural experiment failed, Washington's companies turned to lumbering. The first trees to go were the tall junipers—Atlantic white cedar—which were cut for lumber, shingles, barrels, casks, and tubs. The big swamp black and tupelo gum trees were taken along with the juniper in the early days of the Dismal Swamp logging. The cutting of trees for timber and wood products has been the chief economic activity in the Dismal Swamp for centuries.

While Washington and Byrd each had suggested the digging of the interstate canal, both thought it too expensive a proposition. Patrick Henry, then Governor of Virginia and himself a Dismal Swamp landowner, promoted the idea through the General Assembly, which authorized the canal's construction in 1787. After North Carolina was coaxed into following suit, construction of the Dismal Swamp Canal was begun in 1793. Costs and natural obstacles delayed the canal's opening until 1805, and even then it was passable end-to-end only by small, shallow-draft shingle boats. The British blockade during the War of 1812 demonstrated the need for a truly navigable canal, and it has been widened and deepened several times since.

By 1784, the Dismal Swamp Land Company had acquired title to 40,000 acres of Dismal Swamp land. By 1796, however, Washington had become disappointed in the management of the swamp lumber business and contracted to sell his 1/12 share to Lighthorse Harry Lee, father of Robert E. Lee. However, Lee never was able to come up with the purchase price, and Washington's share of the Dismal Swamp passed on to his heirs upon his death in 1799. Ultimately, Camp Manufacturing Company, a predecessor company of Union Camp, acquired all of the Dismal Swamp Land Company's property in 1909. This property formed the bulk of Union Camp's Dismal Swamp holdings.

In the period just prior to the Civil War, the Great Dismal Swamp became a favorite refuge for runaway slaves. Contemporary estimates of the swamp's fugitive population ran as high as a thousand. Some of them worked at making shingles, in exchange for provisions smuggled in to them; some were armed against recapture and were thought to be quite dangerous. In 1839, Harriet Beecher Stowe wrote a novel about this situation, basing her book on the very real story of Nat Turner.

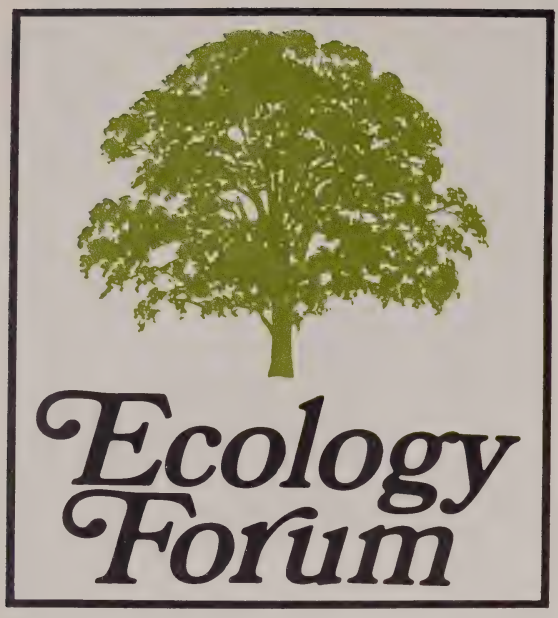
Several decades later, another great American writer became involved with the swamp. According to his biographer, the young poet Robert Frost, stung to the quick by what he regarded as the rejection by Miss Elinor White of a small book of poems, visited the Dismal Swamp with the idea of ending his life there. Instead of plunging suicidally into the swamp, he trekked down the Dismal Swamp Canal towpath and continued on to Kitty Hawk and Hatteras. Apparently the situation wasn't as hopeless as the young poet had first thought, for Elinor White later became Mrs. Robert Frost.

Due perhaps to the area's mysterious and evocative quality, folklore and legends of the Great Dismal Swamp are as rich as its history. The oldest and best known of the Dismal Swamp legends is that of the Lady of the Lake, a myth of diverse origins and variations that was canonized in 1803 by the Irish poet Thomas Moore in his poem, "The Lake of the Dismal Swamp." Based on Indian and local legends about the Indian maiden who died just before her wedding and who is periodically seen paddling her ghostly white canoe across the waters of Lake Drummond, Moore's poem tells how the bereaved lover came to believe that his lost love had departed her grave and taken to the swamp. He followed her in and never returned, but was reunited with her in death:

> But, oft, from the Indian hunter's camp
> This lover and maid so true
> Are seen at the hour of midnight damp
> To cross the Lake by a fire-fly lamp,
> And paddle their white canoe!

Through the years, many a hunter and fisherman has claimed to have sighted the ghostly white canoe with its fire-fly lamp. Like all good legends and mysteries, the Lady of the Lake is rooted in reality. Eerie lights in the middle of the night are not uncommon sights in swamps; what causes these strange lights is foxfire (a luminescence given off by the decaying of wood by certain fungi), burning methane escaping from decomposing vegetation, or smoking, smoldering peat.

The Great Dismal Swamp is a veritable mother lode of Tidewater lore and legend. Attesting to the skill and ingenuity of the Dismal Swamp storytellers, some of their yarns are nearly as incredible and spectacular as the Dismal Swamp itself.



No. 7
by Ray M. Culter

PRESERVE MANAGEMENT

In spite of the Conservancy's arduous and impressive efforts in the phase of land acquisition over the last twenty years, we have been, in most cases, neglectful of our management responsibilities. We have traditionally placed great emphasis on the acquisition of natural areas; the Conservancy's growth and performance have always been measured in terms of acres saved (acquired) per year. However, to "acquire" land is not necessarily to "preserve" it, and, unfortunately, we have often used the terms interchangeably.

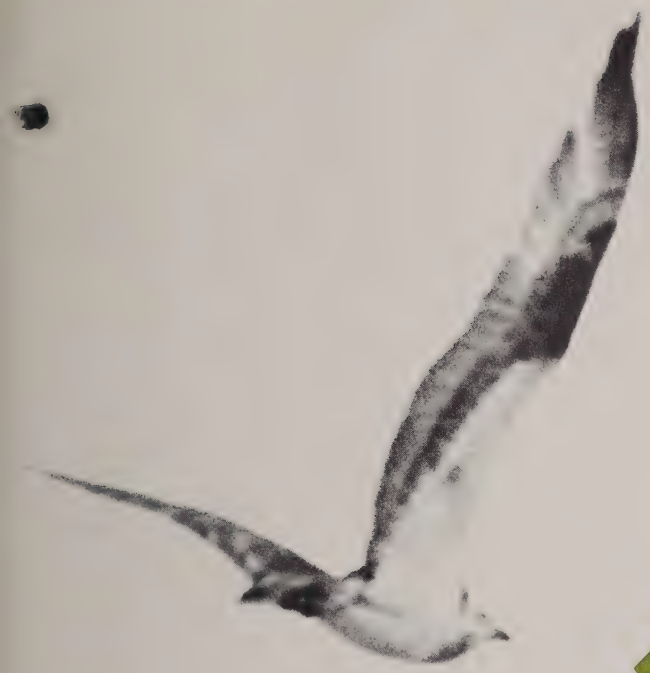
Twenty years ago the formation of an effective preserve management system may have been premature; today there is a crying need. With the number of Conservancy preserves having increased geometrically, management problems eluding casual surveillance and protection have surfaced and are certain to continue to develop with greater frequency. We are, of course, taking action to alleviate these problems, but the need for preventive management techniques is apparent. Some of our areas are being overused or, more frequently, inappropriately used. For instance, at Blowing Rocks, Florida, trail bikes and dune buggies are destroying dune flora and fauna and causing soil erosion, while at the same time creating hazards and annoyance for other users of the area. A few of our preserves, such as the Alexander Berger Memorial Sanctuary in Virginia, are threatened by condemnation for destructive alternative uses. In this particular case, Virginia Electric Power Company is recommending that a power transmission line be routed through the 941-acre Berger Memorial in order to screen the right-of-way from vehicular traffic. At the Patagonia-Sonoita Preserve in Arizona, municipal wastes are damaging an aquatic system of great rarity and importance to the surrounding desert system.

It is clear that we cannot continue to react to these problems on a crisis basis. Today there is a widespread and growing recognition within the Conservancy that we must make a rapid transition of our priorities and programs in the field of preserve management. It must be recognized that the stewardship of our preserves is a goal and function equal in importance to present and future land acquisition.

In setting aside natural areas for preservation, we must recognize and respect these preserves as whole environments of living things whose integrity depends on a continuing interrelationship free of man's spoliation. Our management of these biological communities shall be directed toward maintaining and, when necessary, reestablishing indigenous plant and animal life in keeping with the natural phenomena which exist on that site. This objective predicates continuing protection and maintenance so that various forms of encroachment or abuse cannot destroy the ecological value of these sites.

Those who attended the Conservancy's 1972 Annual Meeting at Mohonk had an opportunity to exchange views on preserve management in several workshops, and expressions of concern were nearly universal. The common theme was an interest in the performance of the task of preserve management by the members of the various chapters, particularly those in areas where the Conservancy already owns a large number of properties. It was generally agreed that the job of protection and maintenance of natural areas was in need of a systematic approach and, further, that preserve management offers a tremendous opportunity to the Conservancy in the accomplishment of its objectives and the promotion of its good work. In fact, it was felt that many of our areas would benefit from active programs of restoration needed to correct the effects of past abusive practices. Further, many of our areas could tolerate increased use in the areas of scientific research and education.

(continued on page 30)



1972: YEAR IN REVIEW

Each spring, a review of the projects of the past year is published in order to inform members and friends of the Conservancy's accomplishments and to seek much-needed support for the General Fund.

During 1972 The Nature Conservancy completed 200 projects comprising 54,529 acres of land. This accomplishment represents the conviction and dedication of many individuals -- the generous and farsighted persons who donated land, those who so willingly gave funds to make purchases of land possible, and those who volunteered their time and energies to make the Conservancy's programs work.

The projects reviewed on the next few pages are a portfolio of our achievements for one year. Each project is a success for the Conservancy; yet there is still a monumental task to be done.

To continue to provide for the preservation and protection of mountains, valleys, streams, marshes, prairies, and forests, the Conservancy sincerely solicits your support. Your generous gift to the General Fund may mean life for an endangered species or shelter for threatened wildlife. It will surely mean that you have helped preserve our nation's imperiled natural heritage.

Arkansas

LEATHERWOOD CREEK, Newtown Co. 500-foot deep narrow canyon surrounding Leatherwood Creek supports rich hardwood forest, numerous large beech trees rare in region. 695-acre tract contains entire creek watershed.*

Arizona

CANELO HILLS CIENEGA, Addition, Santa Cruz Co. 100-acre gift/purchase includes lush desert cienega and unusual rock formations. A stream forms pools, runs, and swamps.*

PHOENIX MOUNTAINS PRESERVE (Spector Parcel, Maricopa Co. Critical 80-acre inholding in proposed Phoenix Mountains Preserve. The rocky desert tract will be held for City of Phoenix until funds are available.

California

BISHOP PINE PRESERVE, Addition, Marin Co. 99 heavily wooded acres contain two ridges with small valleys running through center, several undeveloped springs. To be transferred to California Department of Parks and Recreation.

BOGGS LAKE, Lake Co. (Gift of Fibreboard Corporation) 104 acres. See page 29.

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY FLOWER PRESERVE, Sonoma Co. Remnant of Sonoma pine barrens. Contains only remaining population of *Arctostaphylos densiflora,* a bearberry bush species. 2 acres.

FAIRFIELD OSBORN PRESERVE, Addition, Sonoma Co. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. William Roth) Second Roth gift of 15 acres brings total to 31 acres and adjoins 119 acres which are leased to the Conservancy. Preserve features two ponds, spring-fed stream, mature stand of California live oak and laurel.

HASELTINE PROPERTY. Napa Co. (Gift of Charles deB., Arthur, and Charles S. Haseltine) Key addition to Bothe-Napa State Park. 34-acre tract will give State almost complete control over Mill Creek watershed.

HOPE WHEELWRIGHT PRESERVE, Addition, Marin Co. 68 acres in Marin Headlands purchased by Zen Center, which contributed development rights to the Conservancy. Adjacent to the 557-acre Wheelwright Preserve.

IDA HAINES MURPHY PRESERVE, Los Angeles Co. 450 acres. See page 22.

LILLIAN DEVENDORF HOHFELD PRESERVE (Elkhorn Slough), Monterey Co. Only undisturbed marsh remaining along 250 miles of coast between Morro Bay and San Francisco. Feeding grounds for large numbers of fish, shellfish, mammals, and migrating shore birds. 110 acres.*

—Addition (Gift of Cowell Foundation). 29 acres of salt marsh estuary.

—Addition (Gift of Mrs. Ethna Day Peterson, Mrs. Katherine Rodgers Ashcraft, Dr. John A. Rodgers). ¾ interest in 40 acres of *Salicornia* marsh; expands preserve to 179 acres.

MARTHA ALEXANDER GERBODE PRESERVE (Marincello), Marin Co. 2,138 acres. See page 19.

NELSON NATURE PRESERVE, Santa Clara Co. (Gift of Mr. Frank C. Nelson) ⅕ interest in 5 acres of hillside meadow and woodland in City of Saratoga. For ultimate transfer to the City for use as a park.

PETOYNIA SLOUGH, San Francisco Bay Project, Solano Co. Conservation easement donated by Mr. and Mrs. Donald W. Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. E. Richard Woolley, Mr. and Mrs. Donald E. Toomey, and Mr. and Mrs. Paul C. Bryan, Jr. 365 acres, containing mixed salt and freshwater marsh, lie at northeast end of San Francisco Bay.

POWER PROPERTY, Addition, Solano Co. (Gift of Mrs. Helen H. Power) 29 acres enlarge acquisition for city of Vacaville to 39 acres.

TICANU (Dorland Ranch), Riverside Co. Series of canyons with chaparral and southern oak woodland communities, several permanent springs and ponds. 300-acre tract contains two complete watersheds.*

Colorado

GARDEN OF THE GODS, El Paso Co. 5-acre buffer parcel on west boundary of Garden of the Gods Park maintained by City of Colorado Springs. Conveyed to the city.

WAR EAGLE CLAIM, Summit Co. (Gift of Mrs. Joy R. Hilliard) Scenic area in small valley in Rocky Mountains' Gore Range. 5-acre tract is rich in typical high alpine zone flora and fauna. For transfer to U.S. Forest Service.

Connecticut

ASPROOM MOUNTAIN PRESERVE, Addition, Fairfield Co. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Trachtman) 6-acre parcel enlarges existing preserve of typical Connecticut upland woods to 18 acres.

DEVIL'S DEN, Addition, Fairfield Co. (Gift of Mr. George M. Wallace) Wetland headwaters of Sap Brook, the central watershed of Devil's Den area. 15 acres.

DUCK POND HILL, Additions, Fairfield Co. (Gift of Mrs. Audrey S. Hess) Two wooded tracts of two

Chattahoochee Palisades Nature Preserve

Located along the western edge of metropolitan Atlanta, Georgia, the Chattahoochee River and its forested banks remain a virtual wilderness. The shoreline takes on a variety of forms: steep slopes topped with broad ridges, valleys with small streams, sheer rock cliffs, flat meadows, and narrow river banks strewn with boulders, among which caves can be found. In a program initiated by state and local agencies, the Conservancy helped to preserve a portion of the Chattahoochee River Valley which has come under increasing pressure from developers. Of the total 383 acres, valued in excess of $2 million, 158 were donated to the Conservancy by the Georgia Power Company. The entire tract has been transferred to the state for creation of a Palisades Wilderness Area.

Martha Alexander Gerbode Preserve

For years it has been a goal of conservationists to preserve the strikingly beautiful Marin Headlands area of California and to set it aside as a public park. The Conservancy's purchase of a key 2,138-acre parcel on the southern Marin County peninsula enhances the park concept and insures its success. The tract, formerly known as Marincello, is to be called the "Martha Alexander Gerbode Preserve" in honor of the late west coast conservationist. The grassy, rolling coastal mountain area was acquired from Gulf Oil Corporation through a bargain sale after nearly three years of negotiations. The preserve will be held for intended eventual transfer to the National Park Service for inclusion in the recently authorized Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Two other Conservancy preserves along the Marin Headlands, Slide Ranch and the Hope Wheelwright Preserve, are also scheduled for inclusion in the new national park.

acres each overlook waterfowl refuge on Duck Pond. Preserve now totals 10 acres.

FENN'S POND, Middlebury Co. (Gift of Middlebury Land Conservation Association, Inc.) 7 acres of marsh, open field, and pond serve as way-station for migratory waterfowl in spring and fall. Transferred back to Middlebury Land Conservation Association with reverter and deed restrictions.

FREDERICK C. WALCOTT PRESERVE, Addition, Litchfield Co. (Gift of Grant Swamp Group) 3 acres contain Beaver Pond, hemlock forest with pine and laurel.

LANGSDORF PROPERTY, Fairfield Co. (Gift of Martha K. Langsdorf) 1.7 acres contain hardwood forest, vine understory. For transfer to Aspetuck Land Trust.

MUSAMANO PROPERTY, Hartford Co. 30 acres with oak and ground pine forest, year-round brook. Transferred to town of Avon.

PATTAGANSETT MARSH, Malmfeldt Tract, New London Co. (Gift of Roderick R. Washburn, Frederic L. Way, David H. Malmfeldt) Small cove beach, rock ledge. 5½-acre tract is habitat for osprey.

PEQUOT WOODS, New London Co. 79-acre wooded area has year-round brook surrounded by swampy areas and large rock outcrops. Donated by Mrs. Lucy Tompkins Wormhoudt to town of Groton with reverter to the Conservancy.

SHANGRI-LA, Hartford Co. (Gift of Mr. George Bryce) 12 acres of hilltop hardwood forest, rock outcroppings. Ground cover includes laurel and low bush blueberry.

WILLIAM AND MARY WOOD, New London Co. (Gift of Miss Elizabeth Wade White) Forested upland, lowland with open fields, small swamp; 17 acres, frequented by pheasant, partridge, rabbit, raccoon, fox.

Florida

BIG CYPRESS SWAMP, Collier and Monroe Cos. Series of advance acquisitions for Department of Interior. First seven purchases total 57½ acres; all are scheduled for transfer. Swamp is important freshwater supply to Everglades National Park and Ten Thousand Islands areas.

NEW RIVER NATURAL AREA, Broward Co. (Gift of Mrs. Louisa d'A. Carpenter) 2 wooded acres along South Fork of New River. To be transferred to Broward County Commissioners for addition to proposed county park.

ROOKERY BAY, Addition, Collier Co. 40-acre purchase consists mainly of pine islands, hammocks, mangrove forests, salt marsh. Valuable feeding area and habitat for marine and bird life.

SANIBEL ISLAND, Additions, Lee Co. (Gift of Miss F. A. DeWitt) 8 acres located in low-lying slough area of island. Also, three tracts, 10, 12, and 8 acres, purchased in conjunction with Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation. Preserve, including tracts purchased independently by S.C.C.F., now totals 460 acres.

SNIPE KEY, Monroe Co. 463 acres purchased in coordination with Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. To be included among islands in Great White Heron Refuge, which provides protection for great white heron, white-crowned pigeon, roseate spoonbill.

SWEETBAY SWAMP, Addition, Leon Co. One acre enlarges preserve to 7 acres. To be conveyed to city of Tallahassee.*

Georgia

CHATTAHOOCHEE PALISADES, Fulton Co. 383 acres. See page 19.

SWEETWATER CREEK, Douglas Co. 867 acres of southern highland oak-hickory forest located just 15 miles from metropolitan Atlanta. Purchased by State of Georgia through an option obtained by the Conservancy.

WORMSLOE PLANTATION, Chatham Co. 822 acres form peninsula surrounded by tidal marsh. Uplands support southern pine/live oak woodland. Preserved in conjunction with Wormsloe Foundation; to be transferred to the State.

Hawaii

KIPAHULU VALLEY, Phase I Addition, Maui Co. (Gift of Mrs. Jean W. McCaughey) 14% interest in 596 acres within the lush Kipahulu Valley.

Illinois

BARBARA DUNHAM DOLE MEMORIAL NATURE PRESERVE, Kane Co. 31 acres donated by John L. Dole to Illinois Audubon Society with reverter to the Conservancy. Mixture of mature oak-hickory woodland and open field.

CEDAR GLEN EAGLE ROOST, Addition, Hancock Co. Partially forested floodplain area will be leased to Western Illinois University as research area/bald eagle refuge. 58 acres.*

MEREDOSIA ISLAND, Cass and Morgan Cos. 1,850 acres. See page 29.

SPECHT TRACT, Jasper Co. 110-acre addition to system of sanctuaries for threatened prairie grouse.

Purchased by Illinois Chapter's Prairie Grouse Committee.

Indiana

EFROYMSON NATURE PRESERVE, Hamilton Co. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence W. Efroymson) 22 acres of bottomland forest including several 200-300-year-old white and bur oaks; abundant wildflowers.

ORANGEVILLE RISE OF THE LOST RIVER, Orange Co. Internationally known stronghold of blind cave fish and associated cave fauna. 3-acre tract contains rise of subterranean Lost River.*

Iowa

FREDA HAFFNER PRESERVE, Dickinson Co. 110-acre preserve features kettle hole topography, stands of tall and short grass prairie, marshy areas. Majority of purchase funds provided by the late Freda Haffner.*

Kansas

BIG BASIN (St. Jacob's Well), Clark Co. 1,800 acres of short grass prairie purchased on behalf of State of Kansas. Fossils of mammoths, camels, and other large mammals have been discovered on the site.

ETHEL AND RAYMOND F. RICE WOODLAND, Douglas Co. (Gift of Mr. Raymond F. Rice) Oak-hickory woodland containing numerous tree, shrub, and vine species. Westernmost range of ladies' tresses orchid (*Spirantes ovalis*). 80 acres.

Maine

APPLETON BOG, Knox Co. (Gift of Miss Dorthea M. Marston) 85 acres of moist northern bog. Contains one of northernmost stands of Atlantic white cedar.

BASS ROCK PRESERVE, Lincoln Co. 12 acres of undisturbed seacoast in area where Rachel Carson conducted her early studies.

LEWIS K. MARSHALL MEMORIAL FOREST, York Co. (Gift of Mrs. Lewis Keith Marshall) 181-acre preserve fronts Kennebunk River; contains deciduous/conifer woodland, some swamp areas.

MILL CREEK NATURAL AREA, Cumberland Co. (Gift of Mr. Charles S. Payson) 20 acres of woodland and salt marsh on Mill Creek.

SIMONTON CORNER QUARRY, Knox Co. (Gift of Rockland-Rockport Lime Co.) Remains of lime quarry abandoned since 1900. New biotic communities now flourishing on 10½-acre site.

VAUGHN'S ISLAND, York Co. (Gift of Vaughn's Island Preservation Trust) 35-acre island separated from mainland by tidal creek. Low areas support tall grasses, low shrubs; higher ground contains oak, alder, fir, hardwoods, some white and sugar pine.

Maryland

FINZEL SWAMP, Addition, Garrett Co. 34-acre purchase enlarges preserve to 283 acres. Spring-fed wetland is one of southernmost stations of tamarack in U.S.

Massachusetts

FLORENCE H. HALLETT MILL LOT, Bristol Co. 14 acres of marshland and wooded upland fronting Canoe River. To be transferred to Land Preservation Society of Norton, Inc.*

MILESTONE ROAD PRESERVE, Nantucket Co. Assist to Nantucket Conservation Foundation in acquisition of 318 acres on Nantucket Island. Tract supports heath and woody shrub communities.*

Michigan

GRASS RIVER, Addition, Antrim Co. Grass-sedge marsh, dense balsam/white cedar swamps along banks of Grass River. 74-acre purchase enlarges Grass River Wildlife Project to 136 acres.*

HOLLOWAY RESERVOIR, Genesee and Lapeer Cos. Two tracts, 110 and 94 acres, feature forest-covered morainal esker, exceptional biotic diversity. First two purchases for proposed Holloway Reservoir Regional Park.

NORTH SHORE DUNES PRESERVE, Addition, Ottawa Co. (Gift of Mr. Harold V. Hartger) 11½ acres of Lake Michigan duneland. Vegetation includes oak and pine woodland, various sand dune flora. Preserve now totals 61½ acres.

Minnesota

BEARHEAD LAKE, St. Louis Co. Assist to State in acquisition of 140 acres. Includes lake land with creeks and marshes, upland with mature hardwoods and scattered conifers. Frequented by abundant wildlife, including breeding population of endangered timber wolf.

CHIPPEWA PRAIRIE, Additions, Swift and Chippewa Cos. Four purchased tracts (66, 40, 388, and 40 acres) contain dry, rocky mid-grass prairie with stands of big and little bluestem. Preserve now totals 614 acres. Unit in Ordway Prairie System.

DULUTH HAWK LOOKOUT, St. Louis Co. 91-acre purchase on most heavily used hawk migratory flyway in U.S.; includes 530-foot bluff used by ornithologists as observation site. Purchased in conjunction with and managed by Duluth Audubon Society. Transferred to city of Duluth.

Spring Green Prickly Pear Prairie

An unusual biotic community occupies the dry sandy plains and steep rocky slopes northeast of Spring Green, Wisconsin. Recognizing the area's scientific value, the Conservancy purchased the 259-acre dry prairie tract. It is known for its exceptional number and variety of reptiles, including the box turtle and the six-lined racerunner, both uncommon in the state. The extensive growth of prickly pear cactus provides food and cover for a large rodent population, including the locally rare plains pocket gopher. The black widow spider, also rare in Wisconsin, can be found at this site, as well as a number of plant species which are more characteristic of dry western plains and deserts. Fund raising is underway by the Wisconsin Chapter.

Ida Haines Murphy Preserve

California's Santa Monica Mountain Range extends westward from the city of Los Angeles for 50 miles, bounded on the north by the San Fernando Valley and on the south by the Pacific Ocean. The Murphy Preserve, acquired by the Conservancy through a gift/purchase, lies in the geographical center of this range and is the nucleus of what can become a very significant preservation effort. The 450-acre tract occupies the major portion of a large natural bowl enclosed by steep rocky walls and ridges covered with coastal chaparral and coastal sage scrub. It contains the headwaters of a perennial stream, Cold Creek, which supports a rich riparian flora. The various grades of elevation and moisture have created an uncommon assemblage of biotic communities which, in turn, serve as home and breeding grounds for a great number and variety of birds and other animals. The Southern California Chapter's Santa Monica Mountains Project Committee is fund-raising for the project.

FERNDALE MARSH, Addition, Hennepin Co. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Forrest F. Owen) Part of program by local landowners to preserve 60 acres of marshland bordering Lake Minnetonka. 2-acre donation expands preserve to 32 acres.

HOPPE ESTATE, Hennepin Co. Assist to County in acquisition of 60 acres of woodland for inclusion in county park system.

HOVLAND WOODS, Cook Co. 160 acres of upland mixed conifer-hardwood forest with some swamp-bog-flooded beaver flowage. Possibly supporting habitat for endangered timber wolf, *Canis lupus.**

KATHERINE ORDWAY PRAIRIE, Addition, Pope Co. 138-acre prairie on glacial morainal hills; small oak grove. Adjacent to existing preserve.

LAKE ALEXANDER NATURAL AREA, Morrison Co. Complex glacial topography includes parallel series of kettle lakes and marshes. Woodland and pine groves inhabited by white-tailed deer, ruffed grouse. Two purchases totaling 160 acres.

LAKE ELMO, Washington Co. Three tracts of woodland and marsh totaling 246 acres; purchased at request of Washington County Board of Supervisors for inclusion in Lake Elmo Regional Park east of Minneapolis-St. Paul.

MINNETONKA HIGHLANDS (Hardscrabble), Hennepin Co. (Gift of Mrs. Morris T. Baker, Mr. and Mrs. William Baker, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn R. Grife, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur R. Helm, Mr. and Mrs. Graham McGuire, Mr. and Mrs. William Melinot, Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Truesdell, Jr.) 23 acres of maple, oak, and elm woods on Hardscrabble Point, Lake Minnetonka.

STAFFANSON PRAIRIE, Douglas Co. Dry-to-mesic prairie supporting big and little bluestem, sideoats grama, porcupine grass, smooth aster. 80 acres located on morainic hill.*

WESTERN PRAIRIE, Wilkin Co. 600 acres. See page 25.

Missouri

MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDENS, Franklin Co. (Gift of Mrs. Elise B. Morton and Mrs. Katherine M. Dick) 137 acres of typical upland oak-hickory forest. Transferred to Missouri Botanical Gardens.

OSAGE PRAIRIE, Vernon Co. 1,115 acres. See page 25.

Montana

BLACK-TAILED PRAIRIE DOG TOWN, Sweetgrass Co. 98 acres of flat meadow provide habitat for rare black-tailed prairie dog, *Cynomys ludovicianus.**

New York

ACCABONAC HARBOR, Suffolk Co.:
—Addition (Gift of Mr. Dennis Davis, Mr. Walter Herlitschek). One-acre parcel consists of inter-tidal stand of *Spartina alterniflora,* high marsh, meadow.
—Addition (Gift of Mr. Hamilton Smith). 2 acres containing salt marsh and wooded hummock communities.
—Addition (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Frederic E. Lake). 4 acres of typical New England salt marsh; attracts numerous shore and migrating birds.

ALICE LANE POOR PRESERVE, Westchester Co. (Gift of Mrs. Alice Lane Poor) Open fields, hardwood forest, small stream bounded by marshland. Conveyed to Town of Lewisboro. 39 acres.

ARESKONK CREEK, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Bernhardt D. Schmidt) Tidal creek bounded by *Spartina alterniflora* marsh. Higher ground supports fairly mature woodland, open field. Transferred to Moriches Bay Audubon Society, Inc. 8 acres.

ATLANTIC DOUBLE DUNES, Addition, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Indian Wells Corporation) 19-acre beach contains series of dunes and freshwater swales. Key parcel in Atlantic Double Dunes Assembly, containing over 620 feet of ocean frontage.

BALTIMORE WOODS, Onondaga Co. Rolling glacial terrain; contains meadows, mature stands of beech, maple, hemlock. 99 acres.*

BARBERVILLE FALLS, Addition, Rensselaer Co. (Gift of Miss Sarah E. Peck) Hemlock and mixed hardwood forest, 110-foot waterfall. 22-acre parcel expands preserve to 228 acres.

BARLEY FIELDS PRESERVE, Additions, Suffolk Co. (Gifts of Mr. Colby M. Chester III and Mrs. Sidney Legendre) Two contiguous tracts, 7 and 6 acres, include cattail pond, beach-dune vegetation. Shorebirds abound.

BUTLER SANCTUARY, Additions, Westchester Co. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. David L. Hopkins, Jr.) Two donations, 2 and 4 acres, containing mixed hardwood/conifer woodland.
—Addition (Gift of Margaret Sloan Patterson). 34-acre tract completes acquisition of headwaters of Kisco River. Sanctuary now totals 367 acres.

BYE PRESERVE, Westchester Co. (Gift of Bye and Bye Foundation) 24 acres support dense stands of oak, maple, beech, scattered pine and hemlock.

CANADAWAY CREEK NATURE SANCTUARY (McNally Preserve), Chautauqua Co. 11-acre purchase is outstanding sanctuary for migrating and seasonal birds.

DAVID WELD SANCTUARY, Addition, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Mr. David Weld) 15 acres adjoin original 42-acre Weld donation. Dense hardwood/cedar forest on Long Island Sound.

FULLING MILL FARM PRESERVE, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Mrs. Augusta McL. Robinson) Formerly cultivated area bordered by hedge row of shrubs and small trees. 5 acres.

HANNACROIX RAVINE, Addition, Albany Co. Steep, wooded ravine containing small permanent stream. Upland supports mixed conifer-hardwood community. 21 acres.

HARVEY PROPERTY, Hamilton Co. 138-acre purchase includes dense stands of hemlock, spruce, beech, and maple, as well as 2,000 feet of shoreline on Long Lake. To be transferred to the State for inclusion in Adirondack Forest Preserve.

HENRY MORGENTHAU PRESERVE, Westchester Co. (Gift of the late Mrs. Ruth M. Knight) 20 acres fronting Blue Heron Pond. Includes birch-oak-maple woodland, small marshy area.

HOLLINS PRESERVE, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Mr. Harry B. Hollins and Mrs. Lilias Hollins) Two tracts totaling 30 acres consist mainly of salt marsh bordering Quintuck Creek. To be managed by coalition of universities as marine research station.

HOPE GODDARD ISELIN NATURE PRESERVE, Nassau Co. (Gift of Mrs. Mary Dodderidge, Mrs. Ann Payne, Mr. Sidney Mitchell, Jr.) 42 acres to be donated in a series of four annual gifts of 10½ acres each, the first of which was received in 1972. Preserve is half mixed woodland, half open meadow.

HOWELL MEADOW, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Mr. George J. Wells) Two tracts totaling 5 acres of meadow and marsh. One of the last natural estuarine communities along Goose Creek.

HUSING POND, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Miss Martha C. Husing) 20 acres contain pond, forest of swamp maple, hickory, cedar, and cherry.

INGERLEA MARSH, Suffolk Co. (Gift of John C. and Elmira S. Ingersoll) One-acre gift completes Conservancy ownership of dam on Millcove Pond, a well-protected haven for waterfowl. Adjacent to Millcove Waterfowl Sanctuary.

LITTLE RAM ISLAND WETLANDS RESERVE, Addition, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Duckworth) One acre with cobble-type beach, dune, small salt marsh.

LOVERING PRESERVE, Suffolk Co. 10-acre purchase consists of cattail marsh, wooded upland. Frequented by great blue herons. Transferred to Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

MARION YARROW NATURE RESERVE, Addition, Westchester Co. (Gift of Mr. Wilson P. Foss) 9-acre tract enlarges existing preserve to 31 acres.

MEADOW BEACH, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Nassau Point Causeway Association, Inc.) 15 acres represent last unspoiled sand beach and wetland in the area. Attracts numerous marsh birds.

MIANUS RIVER GORGE, Westchester Co.:
—Additions (Gift of Mr. James Todd). Two 3-acre tracts contain oak-beech-maple woodland, scattered hemlocks; provide valuable bufferage.
—Additions. Two purchased tracts, 8 and 29 acres, consist of dense hardwood forest, marshy areas along Mianus River. Preserve now totals 309 acres.*

MOONBEAMS SANCTUARY, Orange Co. (Gift of Miss Margaret L. Moon and Mrs. Truman J. Moon) 134 acres of field, swamp, and woodland with white pine, hemlock, ash, red maple, sugar maple.

PACK FOREST, Warren Co. 11-acre hardwood forest. Key addition to Charles Lathrop Pack Demonstration Forest maintained by New York State University College of Forestry. To be transferred to the State University.*

RIDER TRACT, Herkimer Co. 613 acres of old-growth forest with 15,000 feet of shoreline on Moss Lake. Purchased on behalf of State of New York, the tract is bounded on three sides by Forest Preserve.

SANTANONI PRESERVE, Essex Co. 12,500 acres. See page 28.

SCALLOP POND, James Augustus Hildreth Preserve, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Mrs. Elizabeth H. Johnson and Mrs. Mary H. Greenfield) Classic New England salt marsh. Many feeding and nesting birds, including clapper rail and great blue heron, use the area. 5 acres.

SCOTIA ISLAND CONSERVANCY, Schenectady Co. (Gift of Miss Helen L. Mynderse) ½-acre island in Collins Lake is observatory of water chestnut, *Trapa natans*. Mixed hardwood forest.

TEN MILE CREEK, Addition, Albany Co. 29-acre purchase adds part of valley with year-round stream, bluffs up to 400 feet. Preserve now totals 111 acres.

THOMPSON POND, Addition, Dutchess Co. Completes acquisition of Thompson Pond shoreline. 130 acres.*

THORNE PROPERTY, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Mrs. Julia L. Thorne) 87-acre tract includes both fresh and salt water marshes. Great blue herons winter in the area.

TURKEY POINT PRESERVE, Nassau Co. 2½-acre purchase is first acquisition in planned 30-acre assem-

Western Prairie

The decline of the Northern Greater Prairie Chicken (*Tympanuchus cupido pinnatus*) is directly attributable to the extensive cultivation of the tall grass prairies which were the main habitat of this species. To protect the prairie chicken, the Conservancy purchased a 600-acre tract of typical upland tall grass prairie which supports a population of this vanishing species. The gently rolling grassland, in Wilkin County, Minnesota, also provides habitat for foxes, deer, migrating sandhill cranes, marsh hawks, red-tailed hawks, snowy owls, ducks, and various grass-nesting birds. Vegetation includes big and little bluestem, moccasin flower, lead plant, and small white lady's slipper. Fund raising is underway by the Minnesota Chapter.

Thick-Spiked Tridens Prairie

Thick-Spiked Tridens Prairie, a 97-acre parcel in Lamar County, Texas, represents a prime example of virgin tall grass prairie; it has never been plowed, grazed, or treated with herbicides. The gently rolling grassland provides habitat for fox, coyote, raccoon, opossum, and numerous birds. A seasonal stream, bordered by red osier dogwood and dwarf sumac, traverses the tract. Representative grasses include thick-spiked tridens, sylvania dropseed, and Florida paspalum. Fund raising is in progress by the Texas Chapter.

Osage Prairie

Present land use trends indicate that, by 1980, most of Missouri's once-extensive tall grass prairies will be gone. As part of its efforts to save as much as possible of this vanishing ecosystem, the Conservancy acquired 1,115 acres of native tall grass prairie in Vernon County, Missouri, five miles from the Kansas state line. The prairie lies on a terrain of gently rolling hills and is interspersed with trees. Flora includes big and little bluestem, Indian grass, blazing star, Canadian wild rye, goldenrod, sunflower, and various forbs. The tract, which is one of the Midwest's largest remaining tall grass prairies, was purchased with funds provided by Miss Katherine Ordway. It is a unit in the Ordway Prairie System.

blage. Lowland, upland, tidal flat on Woodmere Channel, Long Island.
—Addition (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. George Jackson) 4 acres bring total thus far to 6½ acres.

UPLANDS FARM SANCTUARY, Segment 2 Addition, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Mrs. Jane N. Nichols) 16 acres of meadowland enlarge preserve overlooking Cold Spring Harbor to 59 acres.

WADING RIVER MARSH, Suffolk Co.:
—Parcel I (Gift of Dorothy C. Kempf). Fine example of *Spartina* marsh. 51 acres serve as nursery and spawning grounds for many marine organisms, feeding area for shorebirds and waterfowl.
—Parcel II. Gift of 10 acres from 40 separate donors.

WELLBORN WOODS, Saratoga Co. (Gift of Mrs. Marguerite M. Wellborn) Gently rolling, heavily wooded land traversed by Evans Brook. 98 acres just south of Adirondack Park.

ZOE B. DeROPP SANCTUARY, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Mrs. Alfred DeRopp) 9-acre undisturbed wetland. Mainly high tide marshland; shrub oak/pitch pine forest farther offshore.

North Carolina

ENO RIVER, Orange Co. (Gift of Drs. Fred and Molly Bernheim) 90 acres contain rolling oak-hickory-beech woodland, open fields, steep promontories. Part of program to assist in obtaining lands along 20-mile stretch of the Eno for Eno River State Park.
—Addition (Gift of Dr. Elizabeth Sunderland). 5 acres of open fields sloping toward Eno River.
—Additions. Two purchased tracts, 17 and 26 acres, contain steep wooded bluffs, river frontage.*

OLIVE TRACT, Macon Co. (Gift of Prof. and Mrs. Lindsay S. Olive) ¼ undivided interest in 4 wooded acres. For transfer to North Carolina Botanical Garden Foundation.

North Dakota

FOREST RIVER COLONY, Addition, Grand Forks Co. Assist to North Dakota Game and Fish Department in acquisition of 320 acres of mid- and tall-grass prairie. Habitat for endangered prairie chicken.

Ohio

BURGER NATURE PRESERVE, Cuyahoga Co. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd C. Knight) Deep, heavily-wooded ravines in glacial till along west slope of Cuyahoga River Valley. 38 acres.

CHAGRIN RIVER FOREST PRESERVE, Cuyahoga Co. (Gift of Dr. Jonathon Bishop; and Dr. Scott R. Inkley, Mr. Henry Chisholm, Jr.) Two donations, 28 and 40 acres, contain hemlock-dominated ravines, steep banks fronting Chagrin River. Transferred to Village of Hunting Valley.

CRAWFORD WOODS, Portage Co. 25 forested acres on glacial terrain. To be transferred to State of Ohio.

DEHLENDORF WOODS, Franklin Co. 102 acres contain beech-maple forest, woodland swamps, openland, small marshy area. Purchased on behalf of State of Ohio and City of Gahanna.

EAGLE CREEK NATURE PRESERVE, Additions, Portage Co. Two purchases totaling 49 acres include oak-hickory woodland, wet meadow, cattail marsh. Enlarge preserve, which will be transferred to State of Ohio, to 328 acres.

NORTHSIDE WOODS, Hamilton Co. Assist to Cincinnati Tree Council in acquisition of 21-acre mixed mesophytic forest within Cincinnati city limits.

RESOURCES CENTER, Harris Tract, Lake Co. (Gift of Resources, Inc.) Beech-maple and oak-hickory woodland on north bank of Grand River. 26-acre preserve has been transferred to Lake County Metropolitan Park District.

SCHWAMBERGER PRESERVE, Lucas Co. Mixture of wet and mesic prairie with excellent assemblage of prairie plants. For transfer to Toledo Naturalists' Association. 26 acres.*

STILLFORK SWAMP, Addition, Carroll Co. 3 acres of swamp forest donated by John and Lora M. Carrick to Kent State University with reverter to the Conservancy.

THE WILDERNESS, Charles A. Eulett Preserve, Addition, Adams Co. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Spires) Mixed mesophytic forest on dolomite formations. One-acre brings preserve's total to 320 acres.

WILLIAM BENUA PRESERVE, Hocking Co. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Benua) Two forested tracts, 12 and 13 acres, in Clear Creek Valley which harbors more evidences of climatic, geologic and biotic history dating from preglacial times than any other single area in Ohio.

WYOMING NATURE PRESERVE, Hamilton Co. Small stream flows through forested ravine. More than 80 bird species sighted in the area; nature study site for nearby schools. ¾ acre.

Pennsylvania

PENN CREEK, Union, Mifflin, and Centre Cos. Abandoned railway grade running for 25 miles along Penn Creek, one of the finest trout streams in Pennsylvania. Cuts through Bald Eagle State Forest in Allegheny Mountains. Transferred to Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with use restrictions. 150 acres.

Rhode Island

CORMORANT POINT WILDLIFE REFUGE, New Shoreham Co. Conservation easement donated by Commander Joseph Wadsworth. 7 acres of tidal marsh bordered by brush-covered lowland; small island in center of marsh.

ELL POND, Washington Co. Area composed of monadnock/kettlehole terrain, mountain-moorland habitat, granite promontories, sphagnum bog. 17½-acre purchase includes Atlantic white cedar, a once-abundant Rhode Island swamp tree which is rapidly vanishing.

South Dakota

SIOUX PRAIRIE, Addition, Moody Co. Tall grass prairie including seasonal wetlands, dry uplands, several buffalo rubbing rocks and wallows. 80-acre purchase doubles size of Sioux Prairie, a unit in Ordway Prairie System.

Tennessee

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN, Hamilton Co. Local citizens raised funds to preserve 8-acre inholding within Chattanooga National Park. Transferred to National Park Service.

Texas

BEECH CREEK WOODS, Tyler Co. Part of 5-acre beech-magnolia-loblolly pine community within Big Thicket. One acre purchased by Texas Chapter; remaining 4 acres to be acquired in subsequent purchases.

THICK-SPIKED TRIDENS PRAIRIE, Lamar Co. 97 acres. See page 00.

Vermont

COLCHESTER BOG, Chittenden Co. Sphagnum bog dominated by leather-leaf, sweet gale, cotton grass; bog forest with larch, red maple, shrubs. 150 purchased acres to be transferred to University of Vermont.

GLEN LAKE, 2,145 acres. See page 28.

HONEY HOLLOW, Chittenden Co. Vermont Chapter's Green Mountain Profile Committee assisted State of Vermont in purchase of 355 acres of mountain hardwood forest. Addition to Camel Hump State Park.

Virginia

BULL RUN-OCCOQUAN REGIONAL PARK, Fairfax Co. 468 acres purchased for Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority for addition to Regional Park. White oak-tulip-pine forest fronts Occoquan Reservoir for almost two miles. About 20 miles from Washington, D.C.

DILLOW PROPERTY, Smyth Co. North-facing mountain woodland surrounded by Jefferson National Forest. 49 acres purchased for U.S. Forest Service.

MINK ISLAND, Virginia Coast Reserve, Northampton Co. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander B. Hawes) 28 acres consisting entirely of salt marsh. Enlarges Conservancy inholdings among Virginia barrier islands.

SIGNAL HILL, Prince William Co. 13-acre historic area threatened by development. Site of major event in first battle of Bull Run during Civil War. Acquired on behalf of Town of Manassas Park for inclusion in proposed regional park.

Washington

WALDRON ISLAND, San Juan Co.:
—Addition (Gift of Mrs. Beatrice Myers). 7 secluded acres in interior of the island contain meadow and marsh surrounded by dense hardwood forest. Connects two Conservancy tracts.
—Waldron III. 50 acres purchased as part of continuing acquisition program in this area among San Juan Islands of Puget Sound.*

West Virginia

DOLLY SODS, Tucker, Grant, and Randolph Cos. Purchase of mineral rights to 15,617-acre Dolly Sods Scenic Area in Monongahela National Forest to prevent exploitation. Mineral rights have been resold to Forest Service.

Wisconsin

BARABOO HILLS, Addition, Sauk Co. 20 acres enlarge preserve to 864 acres. Preserve features unusual combination of northern and southern communities, remnant prairies, rare cliff plants.*

HERITAGE HEIGHTS, Dane Co. Assist to city of Madison in adding 5 acres to city park system. Tract contains oak-hickory and maple-basswood forests, numerous wildflower species.

HOLZ'S ISLAND, Waukesha Co. (Gift of Mr. Rudy W. Holz) 2-acre island in Little Muskego Lake consists of forested upland, wet bottomland. Transferred to city of Muskego.

NELSON PROPERTY, Waukesha Co. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Nelson) 26 acres of oak woods with lowlands and marsh.

PEAT LAKE WILDLIFE AREA, Kenosha Co. (Gift of Mrs. James R. Anderson and Anderson Estate)

Glen Lake

Through the efforts of Vermont's Agency of Environmental Conservation, the Federal Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, and The Nature Conservancy, a 2,145-acre tract west of Rutland was added to Vermont's park system. The area links the northern and southern parcels of Bomoseen State Park and more than triples its size, forming a contiguous block of 2,940 acres. Included in the new acquisition is pristine, 205-acre Glen Lake, which supports an excellent small-mouth bass population. The tract is hilly and forested, containing dense stands of conifer woodland interspersed with hardwoods. There are several small scenic ponds, as well as some bog areas in the northeastern section. The tract has been transferred to the State of Vermont's Agency of Environmental Conservation.

Santanoni Preserve

The mountain country of northeastern New York contains a wilderness area of six million acres known as Adirondack Park. To insure that this region retains its natural character, The Nature Conservancy has begun a long-range program to acquire private inholdings in the Park. In conjunction with Trout Unlimited, the Conservancy completed the first major step of this program in 1972: the acquisition of Santanoni Preserve. The 12,500-acre area contains two pristine lakes—Newcomb Lake and Moose Pond—as well as numerous creeks and brooks, which furnish an excellent study ground for trout habitats and sustain genetically pure strains of trout native to the Adirondacks. The park's High Peaks area, including New York's highest mountain, Mt. Marcy (5,344 feet), lies just north of the preserve. Fund raising has been completed by the Adirondack Conservancy Committee, and the tract has been conveyed to the State of New York with appropriate use restrictions.

Shallow lake surrounded by cattail marsh, meadow. For transfer to Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; 171 acres.

POLAK WOODS, Racine Co. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Drobena) 13 acres of maple-beech climax forest northwest of Racine.

SHEBOYGAN COUNTY MEMORIAL ARBORETUM, Additions, Sheboygan Co. Two tracts, 7 and 9 acres, consisting primarily of swamp and hardwood forest. Conveyed to Lakeland College, as was original 22-acre preserve.

SPRING GREEN PRICKLY PEAR PRAIRIE, Sauk Co. 259 acres. See page 25.

SUMPTER BLUFFS I, Edith Kindschi Forest Preserve, Sauk Co. (Gift of Dr. Donald Kindschi) 10 acres of 15-foot high quartzite escarpment and red oak woodland.

SUMPTER BLUFFS II, Steidtmann Forest Preserve, Sauk Co. Oak-hickory climax forest covers 40-acre purchased tract. Quartzite escarpment on northeast corner.

Wyoming

JACKSON ELK REFUGE, Teton Co. Key inholding in National Elk Refuge. Development threatens 133-acre tract in area which provides winter habitat for 7-9,000 elk. To be transferred to U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

U.S. Virgin Islands

BATTERY GUT II, St. John. (Gift of Mr. Shailer L. Bass, Mr. Carl A. Gerstacker, Mr. H. D. Doan, Mr. C. Benson Branch) 10-acre tract contains steep, heavily wooded slopes, old-growth trees on valley floor. Near U.S.V.I. National Park.

*** Fund raising in progress.**

Meredosia Island

In the floodplain between the Illinois River and Meredosia Lake lies one of the finest waterfowl areas in Illinois. The 1,850-acre tract was donated to the Conservancy by the estate of the late Mr. James Anderson, Sr., who had for years maintained the property as a natural area. The preserve's mature hardwood forest, marshes, and sloughs attract thousands of ducks and geese; hundreds of wood ducks, once threatened by extinction, nest in cavities of hollow trees overlooking the lake. Among the 200 bird species found at Meredosia are the American bald eagle, American egret, loon, and osprey. The tract is to be transferred to the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife for creation of a National Wildlife Refuge.

Boggs Lake

One of California's most significant natural areas is the unique, marsh-like community known as Boggs Lake. The 104-acre area, located approximately 120 miles north of San Francisco in Lake County, is an excellent example of a vernal pool—a depression which accumulates water during the rainy season and which dries out as the year progresses. This habitat possesses a distinctive and highly localized flora which is adapted to extreme seasonal variation in moisture. Though the site has been the object of scientific study for decades, further research is needed to account for this unusual assemblage of vegetation. The numerous rare plants found here include three species which are not known to exist elsewhere in the world. The tract was donated to the Conservancy by the Fibreboard Corporation of San Francisco.

Project Revolving Fund Progress Report

The Project Revolving Fund now stands at $3,162,200. Each donation to the Fund is increased 25% by the Ford Foundation challenge grant. We will continue to report on the progress of the Fund toward the $4,000,000 goal in each issue of the *News*.

Address Changes . . .

Please notify the Membership Department of the National Office of your new address immediately if you move. The Post Office does not forward third class mail and we would like to insure that your receipt of the *News* is not interrupted. Thank you.

(ECOLOGY FORUM, continued)

A major step toward the proper stewardship and management of TNC's preserves was taken in 1971 when the position of Director of Preserve Management was established within the National Office and charged with the administration, planning, organization, use, control and evaluation of preserves. The Preserve Management Department has, in its Preserve Management Manual, established an organizational framework for the coordination of professional and volunteer efforts toward a national preserve management system. This manual evolved, in part, from a 1961 TNC publication known as Policy Bulletin No. 2, which presented a general framework for the Conservancy's management effort.

The thrust of the newly-energized preserve management program is to implement the organizational recommendations made in the Manual, to place greater reliance on regional, chapter, and field offices, as well as local volunteer entities, and to assure continuity of the management program in all regions and on all preserves. Accordingly, our present plans include the following activities: assistance to chapters in the formation of preserve management committees, the most vital component of the management system; promotion of the preserve management program among volunteers, without whose support the system cannot operate; collection of standardized inventory data for the master project files in order to identify those areas in which management resources must be concentrated; and development of standard procedures to avoid duplication of effort, inadequate monitoring, and uneven application of techniques.

Whatever the long-term character of the Conservancy's preserve management effort—and it is expected it will evolve in unanticipated ways—it must be closely coordinated with the acquisition end of our activities. Preserve managers can contribute to this mutual undertaking by identifying efficient ways to improve preserves through recommended acquisition of additional buffer lands or protective easements. Simultaneously, close attention should be given to the acquisition of lands of the highest possible ecological quality. Not only are such significant areas most beneficial for the Conservancy's objectives, but they are of greater utility to the users, they are infinitely more attractive, and they provide excellent sites for implementing scientific and educational programs. Choice preserves also provide the basis for environmental monitoring; they can be used as gauges to check changes in land use, vegetation, animal life, and other environmental values. As a rule, these areas are far more manageable than preserves where destabilizing influences are already at work.

Currently we are investigating a number of strategies which would increase our operational capabilities. One of these is to inventory and reassess lands held by the Conservancy with an eye toward identifying those preserves which might be better managed by other organizations. In all such cases the Conservancy would continue to have an obligation toward the protection of these areas through surveillance and legal agreements. A second possibility would be our increased participation in the various state natural area programs. Many of these programs provide for a basis of cooperative management on areas which are dedicated. Both of the above techniques have been widely employed with good effects.

There are presently over 400 preserves entrusted to our care, and we can expect at least 100 preserves to be added to our management inventory each year for the next several years. As the human population grows and expands, pressures on the land will increase and our stewardship obligations will became more acute. The level of resources being devoted to preserve management will obviously have to increase, and the ranks of those who contribute to the Conservancy's effort must obviously swell tremendously.

With our 20/20 hindsight, it is always easy to see missed opportunities. The task of providing adequate preserve management in the future will depend on the close and enthusiastic cooperation of everyone who is dedicated to the Conservancy's program. Now is the time to bring together our capabilities and knowledge to insure that lands "acquired" each year are truly "preserved."

MINNESOTA CHAPTER RECEIVES BUSH FOUNDATION GRANT

On January 8, 1973, the Board of Trustees of the Bush Foundation approved a grant to the Minnesota Chapter of The Nature Conservancy for the acquisition and preservation of five significant natural areas in the state. The grant, for $161,300, is the largest ever received by the Chapter.

The natural areas to be acquired are a glacial esker in Morrison County, a tamarack bog in Stearns County, an island off the north shore of Lake Superior in Cook County, a tract of virgin prairie in Wilkin County, and a tract of virtually undisturbed prairie in Douglas County.

In addition to providing for the purchase of the tracts, the Bush Foundation grant establishes a preservation fund for each tract equivalent to 15% of the purchase price. The preservation funds will be used to meet costs of protection and management of the areas.

The preservation of the Great Dismal Swamp is a prime example of what the General Fund does:
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